

Arlington Council on Aging Meeting Minutes October 12, 2017

Present: Jim Munsey, Noreen Murphy, Ann Fitzgerald, Paul Raia, Dick Phelps, Jill Greenlee, and Susan Carp, ED, Mara Klein Collins(on phone).

Absent: Rick Fentin, Marge Vanderhill

No citizens for the open forum.

A. Call to order: The regular meeting of the Council on Aging Board was called to order by Jim Munsey at 6:04PM on October 12, 2017, at 27 Maple Street, Arlington, MA.

B. Minutes approved; Paul 1st motion, Noreen 2nd

C. Report from the chair: Jim Munsey (Maura was on the phone)

1. Exterior Brick work – expressed concerns about this. Susan will have a meeting on 10/13/17 at 10am about this. Mara requested an email update from Susan on it.

A new Request For Proposals from the town should be sent out in January.

2. Road Race – thanks to staff, volunteers, and the board. Special thanks to Chris Angell. Thank you notes to sponsors are on-going. The COA will make a written manual with “How To” instructions for future race organizers. This will include details on timing (i.e. when to do what). In the future, we will attempt to form a new fundraising arm for the COA. There was some discussion of how the fundraising group might be organized and how the funding stream to the COA would be structured.

D. Executive Director Report: Susan Carp, MS

1. July – August: 5k Race sub- committee met to get plan underway. The sub-committee and COA staff worked throughout the summer on this project.
2. The COA was accepted as an official partner with the Department of Transitional Assistance to be a host site for SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) intake. The Arlington COA is one of 14 in the Commonwealth to be designated. As a partner, the COA will receive reimbursement of 50% of the staff time allocated to processing SNAP applications. This is a pilot program at DTA to encourage and successfully enroll SENIORS in SNAP. This program will also be a part of a larger effort to close the SNAP GAP for Arlington residents. Currently, there are 2,400 individuals in Arlington that qualify for SNAP but are not enrolled. Marci Shapiro-Ide has been designated as the lead contact for this program which includes training, and the Executive Director will manage the grant and financial reporting. Based on estimates through SNAP managers at UMASS Med, Arlington could receive approximately \$35,000 in staff reimbursement time.

3. The Formula Budget has not been finalized as of yet. It is unclear if we are able to retain last year's \$10 per senior or if we need to adjust to \$9.80. This figure has changed several times. There is no exact date when Directors will find out.
4. Symmes Grant that was submitted last fiscal year was granted in the amount of \$13,000. This grant is for medical transportation only.
5. The COA received the MASSDOT grant of \$47,280 for a new van! Executive Director is quite pleased and surprised given the competitive nature that this award had evolved into. This grant to purchase a new van will allow us to retire the 2009 van in operation. The grant requires the COA to partner and contribute 20%, or \$11,820 which will come through a Sevoyan request in the next few months. This van should be available in May/June of 2018.
6. Kya Roumimper, Community Engagement Fellow arrived at the COA mid-August. Kya will work primarily on the Age Friendly Community initiative as well as some other projects. Kya has already been to a number of meetings and trainings to get her up to speed.
7. Joanna Cirillo our COA Nurse has resigned due to family emergency and is relocating to New Jersey effective September 28. In the short time Joanna has been with the COA she has warmed the hearts of seniors and has the utmost respect from the COA staff and others she has interacted with. We are very sorry for the circumstances causing her immediate departure and wish her the best.
8. The driveway construction project has been delayed due to the fact that the contractor was not able to perform under the contract. As a result, the RFP will be re-issued in early 2018 for anticipated completion in 2018. All involved are disappointed.
9. Lourie August and Marci Shapiro-Ide both LICSW each have SW interns this academic year.
10. The COA has one nurse this semester from Northeastern.
11. The COA will have at least 4 intergenerational programs this semester, Bridges Together which is a continuation and expansion of the program with seniors and elementary students, the International Intergenerational Tea(s), Intergenerational book club with High School students, and the Arlington Girls and Boys Club will continue to offer assistance with digital devices.
12. The Arlington for All Ages 5K Race was very successful. There were 344 actual runners and the weather could not be more perfect. Thanks to all of the sponsors who donated so generously. Many thanks to all of the volunteers, staff members, and sub-committee of the COA Board that set their own schedules aside to pitch in as well. The final numbers are not in yet, but the COA will have at least \$17,000 for programs and services, including transportation.
13. Omissions, if any, will be addressed at the board meeting.

E. Minuteman Report: No report as Marge Vanderhill was not at meeting

F. New Business: Board Goals

1. Want to keep new senior center as a goal.
2. Paul Raia: stay working on Age Friendly. Come up with benchmarks in 6-12 months. Two folks are going to work on this. Paul will attend the meetings.
3. Continue to build relationships with FinComm, Capitol Planning, and Selectmen
4. Hire a new nurse
5. Recommendation for new members for the COA board (someone on a local bank). Maybe amend the by-laws to let people who live outside of town but who work in the town to be board members. Send names to Jim.
6. Find how other towns fund their COAs and Transportation.
7. Written binders for the road race.

G. The meeting was adjourned: 7:02pm